

AGN. NO. \_\_\_\_\_

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH

FEBRUARY 17, 2009

**FOOD POLICY NUTRITION GUIDELINES**

On August 8, 2006, the Board approved the Los Angeles County Food Policy presented by the Department of Public Health (DPH) and instructed DPH to implement the policy. The Food Policy, which applies to any new contracts awarded by the County, mandates that by 2009, 33% of all foods and beverages offered in County-contracted food and beverage vending machines must adhere to Los Angeles County Food Policy nutrition guidelines. By 2011, the mandated percentage of vending machine products that must adhere to the Food Policy will increase to 50%.

In 2007, State nutrition laws for school vending machines, as defined in SB 12 and SB 965, went into effect. The State nutrition guidelines differ in minor ways from the guidelines contained in the Los Angeles County Food Policy. Although the differences are minor, they present a challenge for County Food Policy implementation, because healthier products for vending machines are currently being manufactured to conform to the State's nutrition law. As a result, there are insufficient vending machine

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Ridley-Thomas	_____
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Knabe	_____

products available to meet County guidelines and implementation goals. This may result in a lack of bidders for County vending machine contracts.

A solution to this implementation problem is to amend the County nutrition guidelines to conform to the State nutrition guidelines. A review of products under both guidelines indicates that approximately twice as many healthier snack products are available that meet the State guidelines. By conforming to the State nutrition guidelines, vendors will have a wider selection of healthier products for their vending machines.

Because the differences between the State and County guidelines are minor, the Department of Public Health has determined that amending the County guidelines to conform to the State guidelines would have no significant negative health impacts, and will significantly improve the Food Policy implementation process.

**I, THEREFORE, MOVE** that the Board of Supervisors direct the Department of Public Health to amend the Los Angeles County Food Policy nutrition guidelines to conform to the State nutrition guidelines, as defined in SB 12 and SB 965, and report back to the Board within 30 days on the above actions.

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